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sphere his true field of labor, and has secured for himself a position as a recognized authority in matters of practical charity and philanthropy which may serve him as a vantage-ground for future extended usefulness.

In his present book he gives a deeply interesting account of one of the most fruitful branches of the work of the society. The story he tells deserves to be studied by all who are engaged in our great cities in efforts to improve the condition of poor boys. The News Boys' Lodging-House is a "model" institution. Its invention was a stroke of genius; but, once invented, it may easily be copied by inferior hands.

The "Short Sermons" are specimens of discourses delivered to the boys on Sunday evenings. They have the merits which belong to all good writing for the young, of simplicity, directness, and freshness of illustration. They are free from cant and conventionality. Many a writer of "long" sermons would benefit by the study of these short ones.

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21. — *Las Escuelas : base de la Prosperidad i de la Republica en los Estados Unidos. Informe al Ministro de Instruccion Publica de la Republica Arjentina.* Pasado por D. F. SARMIENTO, Ministro Plenipotenciario i Enviado Extraordinario cerca de los Gobiernos de Chile, Peru, i Estados Unidos. Nueva York. 1866. 8vo. pp v., and 3 – 327.

DON F. SARMIENTO complains of the comparative want of interest felt by his countrymen and all the inhabitants of South America in public education. To increase this interest, to obtain for the establishment and maintenance of schools sums such as are readily voted for building railroads and other material public works, he proposed, in 1864, to a congress of eight South American republics assembled at Lima, that he should be commissioned to study, during his residence in the United States, the working of our system of popular education, and to print for distribution an Annual Report of his observations. The present volume is the first Report. Its chief contents are, a biographical sketch of Horace Mann; an account of the thirty-seventh meeting of the American Institute of Instruction; remarks on various matters connected with education in Massachusetts, and on the education of the Freedmen; Governor Washburn's lecture, "Civil Polity a Branch of School Education"; remarks on reading in South America, *apropos* to the establishment of a public library at San Juan; an account of the dedication of the Escuela Sarmiento in the same city; and an oration by the author, delivered before the Rhode Island Historical Society.

For us the chief interest of the Report lies in the hints it affords of the condition of education in the Argentine Republic, and in the fact that the very appearance of such a work is a hopeful sign of the progress of civilization in the South American states.

Don F. Sarmiento sees no other means by which his countrymen can escape the frequent revolutions which have made them the opprobrium of the civilized world than the general diffusion of intelligence. The schoolmaster is better than the policeman. An appropriation of three millions a year should be granted for schools. "Three millions is less than the national government and the Provinces of the Interior spent in six months in suppressing the insurrection of El Chaco, which had its origin in the ignorance and barbarism of those who took part in it; it will cost three times three millions to restrain the devastating Guarani invasion, which proceeded from the same cause." The better class of people appear to see this, and the government is eager to forward the work; but school-houses are to be built, normal schools, like the Escuela Sarmiento, organized, libraries founded, even book-shops to be established where something better than the novels of Sue and Dumas shall be sold, and a taste for science and literature infused into a population many of whom have probably much less liking for study than for the free, wild life of the Guacho. The task is difficult, but if those upon whom it has fallen have the zeal and ability of Señor Sarmiento, it is not hopeless.

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22. — *Four Years in the Saddle.* By Colonel HARRY GILMOR. New York: Harper and Brothers. 1866. 12mo. pp. 291.

GENERAL SHERIDAN, in his report of February 3, 1866, uses the following words with reference to his campaign of 1864, in the Valley: "During this campaign, I was at times annoyed by guerilla bands, the most formidable of which was under a partisan chief named Mosby, who made his head-quarters east of the Blue Ridge, in the section of country about Upperville. I had constantly refused to operate against these bands, believing them to be, substantially, a benefit to me, as they prevented straggling, and kept my trains well closed up, and discharged such other duties as would have required a provost-guard of at least two regiments of cavalry." Those who read this book, which may serve as an official report of one of the partisan bands alluded to by General Sheridan, will not be surprised that it occupies the same position in literature that the Colonel did himself in war, — the position of a provost-guard, which will operate as effectually against those stragglers who forget to distinguish between the enemy's country and their own as at least two regiments of cavalry.